

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 010529

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, PO, US

SUBJECT: GIEREK VISIT TO PORTUGAL

REF: WARSAW 258

1. FOR LISBON: EMBASSY LISBON IS REQUESTED ASAP TO APPROACH SUITABLE PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT POLISH FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK WILL RAISE RFE'S GLORIA TRANSMITTERS DURING JANUARY 17 VISIT. EMBASSY SHOULD RECALL THAT GIEREK HAD A VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES IN EARLY OCTOBER AND THAT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR RFE HAS BEEN PART OF THE DIALOGUE IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS FOR MANY YEARS, WITHOUT AFFECTING ADVERSELY THE CONTINUATION OF THESE RELATIONS OR THEIR DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE SINCE MR. GIEREK CAME TO POWER IN DECEMBER 1970.

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2. EMBASSY MIGHT ALSO WISH TO POINT OUT THAT FRG HOSTS IMPORTANT RFE FACILITIES INCLUDING TRANSMITTERS AND THAT FRG HAS WITHSTOOD POLISH AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN PRESSURES ON THESE FACILITIES FOR MANY YEARS.

3. FRG POSITION GENERALLY HAS BEEN THAT RFE PRESENCE IN GERMANY IS AN ASPECT OF FRG PARTICIPATION IN NATO. FURTHER, RFE MAKES IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. FRG IS UNWILLING TO CHANGE THE STATUS IN THE FRG OF RFE.

4. FYI: AS RECENTLY RELATED TO AMBASSADOR HERZ BY HIS GERMAN COLLEAGUE IN SOFIA, RFE WAS RAISED IN BONN ON OCTOBER 3 BY BULGARIAN VICE MINISTER PETROV. REPORTEDLY FRG FOREIGN OFFICE POLITICAL DIRECTOR GUENTHER VAN WELL TOLD PETROV THAT QUOTE: AS TO RADIO FREE EUROPE, WE COULD NOT AND WISH NOT TO ALTER ANYTHING CONCERNING THE EXISTENCE OF THAT STATION. IT WAS IMPORTANT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN INFORMATION AND INTENTIONAL DISINFORMATION. WE SUGGEST CONCENTRATION ON CONCRETE CASES WHICH WE ARE PREPARED TO EXAMINE. UNQUOTE. END FYI.

5. FOR BONN: ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT RECENT FRG STATEMENTS TO EASTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS ON RFE WHICH EMBASSY BONN CAN IMMEDIATELY FURNISH TO EMBASSY LISBON WILL BE APPRECIATED BY THE DEPARTMENT. KISSINGER

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